

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Currently Amended) The vehicle ~~front-view~~ monitoring system according to claim ~~[[1]]~~ 10, wherein the first parameter includes at least a value obtained by normalizing an addition of a luminance-characteristic value on the monitored image by a shutter speed ~~for a~~ of the camera device ~~via which the image is monitored~~ and ~~[[the]]~~ a specific number of data related to luminance edges on the monitored image and the second parameter includes at least the shutter speed and the addition of a luminance-characteristic value.
3. (Currently Amended) The vehicle ~~front-view~~ monitoring system according to claim ~~[[1]]~~ 10, wherein each of the first and the second parameters ~~include parameters~~ includes at least a parameter related to luminance-distribution characteristics on the monitored image but different from each other.
4. (Currently Amended) The vehicle ~~front-view~~ monitoring system according to claim 3, wherein a parameter related to the luminance-distribution characteristics and involved in the first parameter is a value obtained by normalizing a luminance-addition variance or the maximum addition of a luminance on the monitored image by ~~[[a]]~~ the shutter speed ~~for a~~ of the camera device ~~via which the image is monitored~~ whereas a parameter related to the luminance-

distribution characteristics and involved in the second parameter is the luminance-addition variance.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (New) A vehicle monitoring system comprising:

a camera device provided on a vehicle for taking an image to be monitored; and
a controller for taking fail-safe measures when a fail-safe measure-interruption requirement using a first parameter is met on a monitored image for a predetermined first period and resuming a function interrupted by the fail-safe measures when a fail-safe measure-release requirement using a second parameter different from the first parameter is met within a predetermined second period after the fail-safe measure-interruption requirement has been met, wherein the first parameter includes at least a value obtained by normalizing an addition of a luminance-characteristic value on the monitored image by a shutter speed of the camera device and a specific number of luminance edges on the monitored image and the second parameter includes at least the shutter speed and the addition of a luminance-characteristic value.

7. (New) A vehicle monitoring system comprising:

a camera device provided on a vehicle for taking an image to be monitored; and
a controller for taking fail-safe measures when a fail-safe measure-interruption requirement using a first parameter is met on a monitored image for a predetermined first period and resuming a function interrupted by the fail-safe measures when a fail-safe measure-release requirement using a second parameter different from the first parameter is met within a predetermined second period after the fail-safe measure-interruption requirement has been met,

wherein the first and the second parameters include parameters related to luminance-distribution characteristics on the monitored image but different from each other and a parameter related to the luminance-distribution characteristics and involved in the first parameter is a value obtained by normalizing a luminance-addition variance or the maximum addition of a luminance on the monitored image by a shutter speed of the camera device whereas a parameter related to the luminance-distribution characteristics and involved in the second parameter is the luminance-addition variance.

8. (New) The vehicle monitoring system according to claim 6, wherein the first period is variable in accordance with how accurately lane markings on a road in the monitored image are recognized.

9. (New) The vehicle monitoring system according to claim 7, wherein the first period is variable in accordance with how accurately lane markings on a road in the monitored image are recognized.

10. (New) A vehicle monitoring system for taking a fail-safe measure for a fault monitoring condition on a monitored image, comprising:

a camera device provided on a vehicle for taking an image to be monitored as the monitored image; and

a controller for judging an optical irregularity occurred on the monitored image by taking the fail-safe measure when a fail-safe measure requirement using a first parameter is met on a monitored image for a predetermined first period, and for interrupting the fail-safe measure when

a fail-safe measure-release requirement using a second parameter is met within a predetermined second period after the fail-safe measure-interruption requirement has been met,

wherein the first period is different from the first parameter.

11. (New) A vehicle monitoring system for taking a fail-safe measure for a fault monitoring condition on a monitored image, comprising:

a camera device provided on a vehicle for taking an image to be monitored as the monitored image; and

a controller for judging an optical irregularity occurred on the monitored image by taking the fail-safe measure when a fail-safe measure interruption requirement using a first parameter is met on a monitored image for a predetermined first period, and for interrupting the fail-safe measure when a fail-safe measure-release requirement using a second parameter is met within a predetermined second period after the fail-safe measure-interruption requirement has been met,

wherein the first period is variable in accordance with how accurately a lane making on a road in the monitored image is recognized.